

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

YASUHIRO NOSE ET AL

EXAMINER: M. ZARROLI

SERIAL NO.:

10/730,596

GROUP:

2839

FILED:

DECEMBER 8, 2003

FOR:

CONNECTOR COMPRISING AN INSULATOR AND A CONTACT RETAINED BY THE INSULATOR AND CONNECTED TO CONDUCTIVE PORTION OF A BOARD, AND METHOD OF

PRODUCING THE SAME

RESPONSE

MAIL STOP RCE Hon. Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Interview Summary dated April 25, 2005, applicants are concurrently filing an RCE, rather than paying the issue fee, to traverse the Examiner's holding that JP-43263 reads on claim 1. This reference was submitted by applicants with an Information Disclosure Statement filed February 2, 2005.

Since the RCE must be filed by May 3, 2005, the final term for paying the issue fee, to prevent abandonment, the time is too short to permit the Japanese applicants and their Japanese attorneys fully to consider the reference and its relevance to claim 1. They have advised their agent that their brief

consideration of JP-43263 has led them to the conclusion that the claimed subject matter is not obvious therefrom but that they will submit additional comments fully considering the differences between the subject matter of claim 1 and the Japanese reference. Briefly, the **specifically** defined three terminal portions are not disclosed in JP-43263.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to hold examination in abeyance until a detailed response to the rejection of claim 1 is filed, which will be done as soon as possible. Claims 3-19 are allowed.

Respectfully submitted, Yasuhiro NOSE ET AL

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 29, 2005.

Ingrid Mittendorf